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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT

Purchases on Behalf of the the USSR
and Poland

INFO.

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ORIGIN

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SUPPLEMENT

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Attempts are being made to acquire through Czechoslovak concerns certain raw materials, such as pyrites, copper, copper sulphate, and lead, needed by Poland and in the Russian Zone of Germany.

2. For example, the První Československé Vážební a Dopravní Družstvo; (First Czechoslovak Import-Export Association), of Spalena 4, Prague III, which for some time has carried on a considerable business with the Russian Zone of Germany, mainly on a barter basis, is negotiating with the Rio Tinto Company for the purchase of 50,000 tons of pyrites for delivery to the Russian Zone. Payment would be in dollars or sterling, preferably the former; the contract would be concluded by the Czech firm mentioned and delivery made to Stettin.
3. The same firm is negotiating with other enterprises in the USA and Belgium for the supply of lead, copper and resins to the Russian Zone of Germany. In all these cases, it is proposed to open credits in London or New York, and the buyers are reportedly prepared to accept without argument prices which are on the high side.
4. In the case of Poland, an attempt was recently made by a director of one of the nationalized Czech industries to divert to a Polish sulphuric acid works pyrites which had already been contracted for by the Czech Metallurgical Industry. The attempt, however, failed.
5. In all these transactions, the ultimate buyers wish to remain anonymous and to give the suppliers the impression that the orders come from Czechoslovakia.

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